

KANSAS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

August 2, 2006

Mr. Mike Johanns, Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
14th Street & Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Johanns:

I am requesting assistance for physical and production losses caused by late spring freeze and drought, high winds, and extreme temperatures, which occurred over parts of Kansas in August 2005 and Continuing.

I request the following counties of Kansas be declared a disaster area because of the extreme weather conditions:

Barber	Finney	Hodgeman	Ness	Rooks	Stanton
Barton	Ford	Jewell	Norton	Rush	Stevens
Cheyenne	Gove	Kearney	Osborne	Russell	Sumner
Clark	Graham	Kiowa	Ottawa	Saline	Thomas
Cloud	Grant	Lane	Pawnee	Scott	Trego
Comanche	Gray	Lincoln	Phillips	Seward	Wallace
Decatur	Greeley	Logan	Pratt	Sheridan	Wichita
Edwards	Hamilton	McPherson	Rawlins	Sherman	Woodson
Ellis	Harper	Meade	Republic	Smith	
Ellsworth	Haskell	Mitchell	Rice	Stafford	

These 58 counties have been affected by severe dry weather since August 2005 with essentially no precipitation received since last summer. The recent winter, spring and summer seasons have brought excessive winds and above normal temperatures. Because of these factors, the production of wheat, hay and alfalfa is significantly reduced. Many producers are reducing their cattle herds or selling the entire herd because of reduced grassland growth.

Your approval will allow farmers and ranchers in these counties to be eligible for USDA assistance through the Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency credit, and will assist agri-business operators in recovering from the effects of these conditions.

This request reflects the recommendation of the USDA State Emergency Board of Kansas. USDA Natural Disaster Damage Assessment Reports will follow as soon as they are available. Please contact my designated representative, Ms. Randi Stahl, Kansas Emergency Management, at 785-274-1596 or FAX 785-274-1426 for inquiries into this matter.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Sebelius
Governor of the State of Kansas

KS:RS:tdt

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